

Attorney Docket No.: ISPH-0612
Inventors: Bennett and Mirabelli
Serial No.: 09/982,262
Filing Date: October 18, 2001
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The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for preserving a corneal explant *ex vivo*, comprising incubating ~~said an~~ explant in a solution comprising a corneal storage medium and an antisense oligonucleotide between 8 and 50 nucleotides in length that is targeted to intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1), and wherein said antisense oligonucleotide inhibits the expression of intracellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1).

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is ISIS 2302.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said explant is human.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method of inhibiting corneal allograft rejection, comprising contacting the ~~an~~ allograft with a topical formulation comprising an antisense oligonucleotide between 8 and 50 nucleotides in length that is targeted to intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1), and wherein said antisense oligonucleotide inhibits the expression of intracellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1).

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Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is ISIS 2302.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the allograft is human.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the topical formulation is a solution.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method for preserving a corneal explant ex vivo, comprising incubating ~~said an~~ explant in a solution comprising a corneal storage medium and an antisense oligonucleotide between 8 and 50 nucleotides in length that is targeted to extracellular adhesion molecule-1 (ELAM-1) or vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM-1), and wherein said antisense oligonucleotide inhibits the expression of extracellular adhesion molecule-1 (ELAM-1) or vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM-1).

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method of ~~claim 7~~ claim 8, wherein the explant is human.

Claims 10-12 (canceled).